

# Watauga Democrat.

VOL 8

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1896.

NO. 40

From Blowing Rock, N. C.

Editor Democrat:

In your issue of the 3rd inst. Mr. Davis accuses me of a misstatement in that I asserted that Gen. Jackson changed the coinage ratio. Mr. Davis says that "Congress changed the ratio. President Jackson only sanctioned the bill." The difference is of no importance, but very clear and full statement in your issue of July 23rd was that "the democratic party under the lead of General Jackson, Levi Woodbury and Thos. H. Benton established the gold standard." In your issue of the 27th ult., I quoted from the report of the committee of the House of Representatives "that the nearest approach to an invariable standard is its establishment in one metal." The House then acting on the report of the committee made gold the standard by undervaluing silver and thus driving it out of the country.

On the further study of the history of this country Mr. Davis will discover that Thos. Jefferson, when President, by his own act and without Congressional action, suspended the coinage of silver dollars in 1805. From Jefferson to Cleveland every democratic President has been a supporter of the gold standard and practically we have never had free coinage since 1805.

Mr. Davis asks if gold was made the standard of value in 1834, why silver was at a premium till 1873 and then fell below par simply because of its increased supply and cheaper production after '73. There is no if about it, we have had the gold standard since 1834.

Mr. Davis is confused between legal tender and intrinsic value. The legal tender and intrinsic value of a gold eagle (U. S. \$10 coin) are exactly the same—the legal tender and intrinsic value of the silver dollar are different and the government of the United States by making it legal tender does not add to its intrinsic value, which remains always what it is worth as bullion. Export a defaced silver dollar to China, and it will be worth 53 cts; export a defaced ten dollar gold piece and it will be worth ten dollars still. Melt either of them at home and the same result will be given.

I have shown that my statements are correct and that I stand on the safe gold standard policy established under President Jackson's administration in 1834. I have not attempted to teach any fine spun theories simply to recall to the memory of your readers a few well known facts, and having done that I would like to call attention to the moral side of the question.

"Thou shalt not steal," is a command which lies at the root of our social life. No man, no body of men, whether in their private, or corporate, or public capacity can violate this law, and escape punishment. In individual cases we call the man who steals a thief and send him to

jail. Is it less criminal to steal through the machinery of legislative assembly? The punishment in this case is prompt and certain by the public loss of credit, and loss of confidence immediately following on legislative dishonesty. British government consols paying 2% per cent, are at a premium of 13 per cent. In other words, the government can borrow at 2½ per cent. This is the reward of financial honesty. To-day the State of North Carolina could not borrow on any terms whatever; this is the penalty of threatened dishonesty. The legal rate is six per cent, but no one will lend gold to a people who threaten to repay it in fiat money.

It is not honest to borrow a hundred bushels of wheat and then vote that all contracts payable in wheat may be paid in oats, bushel for bushel. It is just as dishonest to borrow gold money and then vote that all contracts payable in gold may be redeemed in silver, worth half the gold, or in fiat money worth nothing at all. Voters of North Carolina cannot escape the sin of theft by voting to elect a legislature pledged to make their theft lawful.

God's law will prevail in spite of any human enactments. "Thou shalt not steal" is a divine command, and overrules any law we may make. Very Truly,

CIVIS.

Sent it to his mother in Germany.

Mr. Jacob Esbenson, who is in the employ of the Chicago Lumber Co., at Des Moines, Iowa, says: "I have just sent some medicine back to my mother in the old country, that I know from personal use to be the best medicine in the world for rheumatism, having used it in my family for several years. It is called Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It always does the work." 50 cent bottles for sale by all druggists.

Kansas City Star: The distance between the city and country is lessened by the daily paper. It is impossible to regard any locality as distant which you learn from directly ever morning and every evening. The man in the country receives the news events in the city how the election has gone, for instance, before he can hear from the other side of his own county, or even township.

Saved the Babies

Mr. J. T. McAlister, of Atlanta, Ga., says: "Last June Germetur saved our baby, Paul, carried him safely through an extremely bad case of dysentery and teething, and from a mere skeleton of skin and bones, it has made him a great big solid chunk of thirty or thirty five pounds."

FAT AS A PIG.

J. J. Scruggs, of Sidon, Miss., says: "Our little girl 9 months old, was in a very low state from summer complaint and Germetur made her as fat as a pig."

From all accounts, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a God-send to the afflicted. There is no advertisement about this; we feel just like saying it. The Democrat, Carrollton, Ky. For sale by druggists.

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The family  
signature  
of  
Jas. H. Fletcher  
is on  
every  
wrapper.

From Brookside, N. C.

Editor Democrat:

Several articles have appeared in your paper during the past twelve months favoring monometallism, or as generally expressed, the gold standard, but there has been practically nothing written favoring bimetalism the old standard of both gold and silver. If we except a few editorials and some desultory remarks in reply to your correspondent at Blowing Rock, designed merely to show the inconsistency of, and the untenable grounds occupied by that scribe.

Although we feel our incompetency to do the subject justice, we will endeavor to present a few facts relative to this matter, and if we can awaken the interest of any so as to induce them to investigate and learn the truth in the premises we shall have accomplished our design.

For the benefit of those whose memories do not reach back to the time, it may be proper, in order to learn where and why this war on silver originated, and why all the financial legislation since the close of the late civil war has been in favor of the bondholder, the banker, the millionaire. To begin back in the sixties, during the war, the U. S. government issued bonds amounting to several hundred millions of dollars in order to obtain funds for prosecuting the war. These bonds were sold in the markets and paid for in greenbacks after they had greatly depreciated. After the war closed, these bondholders obtained the passage of an act by Congress, making those bonds payable in coin, although Senator Sherman declared in a public speech in Congress that no clause of the act granting the issue of the bonds, indicated their payment in coin. By this act the bondholder about doubled his holdings, for it must be remembered that these bonds were paid for in greatly depreciated greenbacks—it being at one time worth only 47 cts. in the dollar.

The next move of the bondholders was to make money scarce, and they induced the Secretary of the Treasury to adopt an order of holding \$100,000,000 of gold in the Treasury as a reserve fund; thus withdrawing that sum from circulation. But this was not enough to satisfy their greed, so they set to work to again enhance their holdings. This time they undertook to double their dollars by destroying one half of the money of the nation, knowing that if it did not double their dollars in number, it would double them in their purchasing power, which amounts to the same thing. So they stealthily smuggled a bill through Congress in 1873 prohibiting the coinage of the standard silver dollar, thereby demonetizing silver by this act procured by fraud. They again doubled their dollars, for any one can attest the fact that one dollar now will purchase twice as much of the necessa-

ries of life as it would before silver was demonetized.

Now this is the act the silver men want repealed, and it is one of the most surprising things, that a law so confessedly fraudulent should have such ardent support; support too by men who are well aware of the sneaking fraud in procuring the bill. Now having procured the destruction of silver as a money metal they (the bondholders, bankers and millionaires) or the d—l induced Senator Sherman to introduce a bill in 1890 and have it enacted by Congress compelling the Secretary of the Treasury to buy 4,500,000 ounces of silver per month, not for coinage, but to store away in vaults built for that purpose, where it still remains; and then further degrading silver by making it a commodity, in which the Government was compelled to enter the markets to help beat down the price. But the object proved to be a deeper laid plan than appeared on the surface. The same law authorized the issuing of Treasury notes payable in coin, to pay for the silver bullion.

Their next move was to procure a decision of the Treasury that coin meant gold, if they so demanded. Now they have a mill and they can take these Treasury notes and demand gold until this arbitrary reserve fund is reduced below the fixed amount, and thus compel the Treasurer to issue more bonds to buy more gold to again exchange for Treasury notes. They seem to be in a manner satisfied at present. But if they are successful in maintaining the present gold standard, their next move will be to retire greenbacks and entirely do away with silver money only as token money, the same as copper and nickels are, and thus withdraw from the volume of our currency near one billion dollars, and if so it will reduce the people of this once glorious and happy republic to the degraded condition of the vassals of Egypt.

H. A. DAVIS.

In a recent letter to the manufacturers Mr. W. F. Benjamin, editor of the Spectator, Rushford, N. Y., says: "It may be a pleasure to you to know the high esteem in which Chamberlain's medicines are held by the people of your own state, where they must be best known. A man of mine, who resides at Dexter, Iowa, was about to visit me a few years since, and before leaving home wrote me, asking if they were sold here, stating if they were not she would bring a quantity with her, as she did not want to be without them." The medicines referred to are Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, famous for its cures of coughs and croup; Chamberlain Pain Balm for rheumatism, lame back, pains in the chest and side, and Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy for bowel complaints. These medicines have been in constant use in Iowa for almost a quarter of a century. The people have learned that they are articles of great worth and merit; and unequalled by any other. They are for sale by all druggists.

To Those Who Are "Afraid"

I simply want to say this: If there is any person here who is afraid that under the policy proposed by the Chicago platform we are going to have a flood of money and that you will be drowned in it, we cannot appeal to him for support. But if there is anybody here whose experience is such that he is willing to risk the disastrous consequences of that flood upon him we ask you to consider whether we are not entitled to your vote.

We have waited for more than 20 years to have the benefits of bimetalism brought to us by those whose interests are opposed to ours. I assert that the American people not only have the right, but have the ability to legislate for themselves on every question no matter what other nations may think about it.

The man who says that bimetalism is desirable and yet that the United States is impotent to bring it a day, argues to our people has made an admission that I shall not make.

We appeal to you to remember that the United States is the only nation that stands ready to protect its own people from every danger foreign and domestic.

Foreign nations may protect their people, as they should, but our nation is the only nation that can protect the American people.

If we need relief from the gold standard, we must secure it ourselves, and if we must secure this relief ourselves we can only secure it through a party which believes in the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation.—W. J. BRYAN.

Lynchburg Advance: Abram S. Hewitt, former mayor of N. Y., says the Chicago platform is an attack on the constitution, and wants everybody to rally round the flag. Mr. Hewitt, it is said, has suffered from dyspepsia, for years, and doubtless all the brilliant, many-hued flowers that bloom in the spring look blue to him. His forebodings are truly fearful, and should excite concern among his friends for his physical condition. Something ought to be done to cheer him up.

The Way it Was Put.

"I presume you gave the prisoner some occasion to strike you?"

"Why, your Honor we were talking about the coinage, and made some statement that caused me to remark that he had been misled, and was then arguing from wrong premises, and then he struck me."

"Is that what he said to you, prisoner?"

"Yes, that is the substance of it, Your Honor, but not the language. What he said was that I didn't know enough to pound sand in a rat hole, and was talking through my hat like a jackass full of thistles and bull-nittles."

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of  
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## AYER'S Sarsaparilla

was then resorted to, and the result was all we could have wished for. The carbuncle healed quickly, and his health is now perfect."  
—H. S. ROUZIE, Champlain, Va.

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IS THE BEST  
FIT FOR A KING.  
\$3.50 CORDOVAN, FRENCH CHAMUELLED CALF.  
\$4.50 FINE CALF & KANGAROO.  
\$3.50 POLICE, 3 SOLES.  
\$2.50 \$2. WORKINGMEN'S, EXTRA FINE.  
\$2.15 BOYS SCHOOL SHOES.  
LADIES' \$3.25 \$2.15.  
BEST GONGOLA.  
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.  
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BOONE, N. C.

Special attention given to the collection of claims.

## IMPORTANT.

Don't delay having your house painted while the season is here. Don't have your paint wasted and your work half done by an inexperienced painter, as paints cost money. I will be glad to do your painting and paper hanging this season. Ten years experience. Best of reference given.

J. P. ABSHER, Boone N. C.

6-23-96 m.